

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/767,810

Examiner

Kyle R. Stork

Applicant(s)

MEYER ET AL.

Art Unit

2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Examiner Interview on 29 August 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,5-21,23,24,26-42,45-62,65-81 and 84-99.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>20060829</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ernest J. Beffel, Jr., Reg. No. 43,489 on 29 August 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) A method for processing an electronic document adapted for delivery to one or more recipients, the electronic document comprising an electronic mail document including a header and a body, the method comprising:

processing the electronic document using a program to automatically identify semantic foci;

creating a meta-content index corresponding to said semantic foci comprising one or more objects expressed in a markup language adapted for presentation with the body of the electronic document; and

combining said meta-content index with the header and the body to provide an enhanced document.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, including sending the enhanced electronic document to said one or more recipients.

3. (Cancel by Examiner's Amendment)

4. (Cancel by Examiner's Amendment)

5. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) The method of claim 1, wherein said electronic document comprises a document in a format compliant with a standard MIME format.

6. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) A method for processing an electronic document adapted for delivery to one or more recipients, the electronic document including a header and a body, the method comprising:

processing the electronic document using a program to automatically identify semantic foci;

creating a meta-content index corresponding to said semantic foci; and
combining said meta-content index with the header and the body to provide an enhanced document;

wherein said semantic foci includes at least one date within the body, and further including identifying a document date within the header; and

associating a presentation attribute to said at least one date in said meta-content index, the presentation attribute based upon a temporal relationship between the document date and the at least one date.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, including converting the at least one date to canonical form.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the presentation attribute comprises color.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said semantic foci includes a plurality of types of information, the plurality of types including one or more of email addresses, URLs, dates, currency values, organization names, names of people, names of places, names of products, names of drugs, names of sports teams, names of diseases, and phone numbers.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said meta-content index comprises entries sorted by the plurality of types.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein in one of the plurality of types comprises currency values, and including converting the currency values to a canonical form.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9, including annotating said semantic foci within said body.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9, including color coding said electronic version of said index and said semantic foci in said body according to said plurality of types.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, including associating hyperlinks with said semantic foci, and incorporating said hyperlinks into one of said meta-content index and said body.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said meta-content index comprises labels facilitating parsing of the enhanced document.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said electronic document includes an attachment, and said processing includes analysis of the attachment.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, including generating a summary of said electronic document, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said electronic document includes an attachment, and including generating a summary of the attachment, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said header includes text suggesting a key subject, and including generating a summary of said electronic document based upon the key subject, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said meta-content index includes a summary of all or part of the electronic document.

21. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) A method for processing an electronic document adapted for delivery to one or more recipients, the electronic document including a header and a body, the method comprising:

performing meta-content extraction of semantic foci within said electronic document using a program, the semantic foci comprising a plurality of types of information including one or more of email addresses, URLs, dates, currency values, organization names, names of people, names of places, names of products, names of drugs, names of sports teams, names of diseases, and phone numbers;

creating a meta-content index of the electronic document based upon said extracted semantic foci;

arranging the meta-index according to said plurality of types;

combining said meta-content index with said header and said body to provide an enhanced document; and

sending said enhanced document to said one or more recipients via a communication network;

wherein said semantic foci includes at least one date within the body, further including identifying a document date within the header; and associating a presentation attribute to said at least one date in said index, the presentation attribute based upon a temporal relationship between the document date and the at least one date.

22. (Cancel by Examiner's Amendment)

23. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) A method for processing an electronic document adapted for delivery to one or more recipients, the electronic document comprising an electronic mail document including a header and a body, the method comprising:

performing meta-content extraction of semantic foci within said electronic document using a program, the semantic foci comprising a plurality of types of information including one or more of email addresses, URLs, dates, currency values, organization names, names of people, names of places, names of products, names of drugs, names of sports teams, names of diseases, and phone numbers;

creating a meta-content index of the electronic document based upon said extracted semantic foci comprising one or more objects expressed in said markup language adapted for presentation with body in said enhanced document;

arranging the meta-index according to said plurality of types;
combining said meta-content index with said header and said body to provide an enhanced document; and
sending said enhanced document to said one or more recipients via a communication network.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein said electronic document comprises a document in a format compliant with a standard MIME format.

25. (Cancel by Examiner's Amendment)

26. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) The method of claim 21, including converting the at least one date to canonical form.

27. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) The method of claim 21, wherein the presentation attribute comprises color.

28. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein in one of the plurality of types comprises currency values, and including converting the currency values to a canonical form.

29. (Original) The method of claim 21, including annotating said semantic foci within said body.

30. (Original) The method of claim 21, including color coding said electronic version of said index and said semantic foci in said body according to said plurality of types.

31. (Original) The method of claim 21, including associating a hyperlink with one of said extracted semantic foci, and incorporating said hyperlink into one of said metacontent index and said body.

32. (Original) The method of claim 21, including adding presentation attributes to entries in said meta-content index according to said plurality of types.

33. (Original) The method of claim 21, including adding presentation attributes to entries in said meta-content index within one of said plurality of types, according to relationships among said entries within said one of said plurality of types.

34. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said meta-content index comprises labels facilitating parsing of the enhanced document.

35. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said electronic document includes an attachment, and said meta-content extraction includes analysis of the attachment.

36. (Original) The method of claim 21, including generating a summary of said electronic document, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

37. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said electronic document includes an attachment, and including generating a summary of the attachment, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

38. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said header includes text suggesting a key subject, and including generating a summary of said electronic document based upon the key subject, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

39. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said meta-content index includes a summary of all or part of the electronic document.

40. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) An article of manufacture comprising:
a computer readable medium having computer readable program code which upon execution provides a data processing method including:

automatically processing an electronic document which comprising an electronic mail document includes a header and a body using the program code to identify semantic foci;

creating a meta-content index corresponding to said semantic foci comprising one or more objects expressed in a markup language adapted for presentation with the body of the electronic document; and

combining said meta-content index with the header and the body to provide an enhanced document.

41. (Original) The article of claim 40, wherein said method includes preparing said enhanced document for delivery to one or more recipients.

42. (Original) The article of claim 40, wherein said method includes sending the enhanced electronic document to said one or more recipients.

43. (Cancel by Examiner's Amendment)

44. (Cancel by Examiner's Amendment)

45. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) The article of claim 41, wherein said electronic document comprises a document in a format compliant with a standard MIME format.

46. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) An article of manufacture comprising:
a computer readable medium having computer readable program code which
upon execution provides a data processing method including:
automatically processing an electronic document which includes a header
and a body using the program code to identify semantic foci;
creating a meta-content index corresponding to said semantic foci; and
combining said meta-content index with the header and the body to
provide an enhanced document;
wherein said semantic foci includes at least one date within the body, and
wherein said method further includes identifying a document date within the header; and
associating a presentation attribute to said at least one date in said meta-content
index, the presentation attribute based upon a relationship between the document date
and the at least one date.
47. (Original) The article of claim 46, wherein said method includes converting
the at least one date to canonical form.
48. (Original) The article of claim 46, wherein the presentation attribute
comprises color.
49. (Original) The article of claim 40, wherein said semantic foci includes a
plurality of types of information, the plurality of types including one or more of email
addresses, URLs, dates, currency values, organization names, names of people,
names of places, names of products, names of drugs, names of sports teams, names of
diseases, and phone numbers.

50. (Original) The article of claim 49, wherein said meta-content index comprises entries sorted by the plurality of types.

51. (Original) The article of claim 49, wherein in one of the plurality of types comprises currency values, and wherein said method includes converting the currency values to a canonical form.

52. (Original) The article of claim 49, wherein said method includes annotating said semantic foci within said body.

53. (Original) The article of claim 49, wherein said method includes color coding said electronic version of said index and said semantic foci in said body according to said plurality of types.

54. (Original) The article of claim 40, wherein said method includes associating hyperlinks with said semantic foci, and incorporating said hyperlinks into one of said meta-content index and said body.

55. (Original) The article of claim 40, wherein said meta-content index comprises labels facilitating parsing of the enhanced document.

56. (Original) The article of claim 40, wherein said electronic document includes an attachment, and said processing includes analysis of the attachment.

57. (Original) The article of claim 40, wherein said method includes generating a summary of said electronic document, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

58. (Original) The article of claim 40, wherein said electronic document includes an attachment, and wherein said method includes generating a summary of the

attachment, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

59. (Original) The article of claim 40, wherein said header includes text suggesting a key subject, and wherein said method includes generating a summary of said electronic document based upon the key subject, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

60. (Original) The article of claim 40, wherein said meta-content index includes a summary of all or part of the electronic document.

61. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) A system for enhancing an electronic document comprising an electronic mail document including a header and a body in a computer including:

a computer, including an electronic mail client having programmatic resources for composing an electronic document having a header and a body, and for sending electronic documents to one or more recipients; and

programmatic resources coupled with the electronic mail client in the computer which process said electronic document to identify semantic foci within the document;

create a meta-content index corresponding to said semantic foci comprising one or more objects expressed in a markup language adapted for presentation with the body of the electronic document; and

combine said meta-content index with the header and the body to provide an enhanced document.

62. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said resources provide said enhanced document to said email client for delivery to one or more recipients.

63. (Cancel by Examiner's Amendment)

64. (Cancel by Examiner's Amendment)

65. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said electronic document comprises a document in a format compliant with a standard MIME format.

66. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) A system for enhancing an electronic document including a header and a body in a computer including:

a computer, including an electronic mail client having programmatic resources for composing an electronic document having a header and a body, and for sending electronic documents to one or more recipients; and

programmatic resources coupled with the electronic mail client in the computer which process said electronic document to identify semantic foci within the document;

create a meta-content index corresponding to said semantic foci; and

combine said meta-content index with the header and the body to provide an enhanced document;

wherein said semantic foci includes at least one date within the body, and wherein said resources identify a document date within the header; and

associate a presentation attribute to said at least one date in said meta-content index, the presentation attribute based upon a relationship between the document date and the at least one date.

67. (Original) The system of claim 66, wherein said resources convert the at least one date to canonical form.

68. (Original) The system of claim 66, wherein the presentation attribute comprises color.

69. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said semantic foci includes a plurality of types of information, the plurality of types including one or more of email addresses, URLs, dates, currency values, organization names, names of people, names of places, names of products, names of drugs, names of sports teams, names of diseases, and phone numbers.

70. (Original) The system of claim 69, wherein said meta-content index comprises entries sorted by the plurality of types.

71. (Original) The system of claim 69, wherein in one of the plurality of types comprises currency values, and wherein said resources convert the currency values to a canonical form.

72. (Original) The system of claim 69, wherein said resources annotate said semantic foci within said body.

73. (Original) The system of claim 69, wherein said resources color code said electronic version of said index and said semantic foci in said body according to said plurality of types.

74. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said resources associate hyperlinks with said semantic foci, and incorporate said hyperlinks into one of said meta-content index and said body.

75. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said meta-content index comprises labels facilitating parsing of the enhanced document.

76. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said electronic document includes an attachment, and said resources which process the electronic document analyze the attachment.

77. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said resources which process the electronic document generate a summary of said electronic document, and include the summary in the enhanced document.

78. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said electronic document includes an attachment, and wherein said resources which process the electronic document generate a summary of the attachment, and include the summary in the enhanced document. /

79. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said header includes text suggesting a key subject, and wherein said resources which process the electronic document generate a summary of said electronic document based upon the key subject, and include the summary in the enhanced document.

80. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said meta-content index includes a summary of all or part of the electronic document.

81. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) An enhanced electronic document produced according to a method for processing an electronic document adapted for delivery to one or more recipients, the electronic document comprising an electronic mail document including a header and a body, the method comprising:

processing the electronic document using a program to identify semantic foci within the electronic document;

creating a meta-content index corresponding to said semantic foci comprising one or more objects expressed in a markup language adapted for presentation with the body of the electronic document; and

combining said meta-content index with the header and the body to provide said enhanced document.

82. (Cancelled by Examiner's Amendment)

83. (Cancelled by Examiner's Amendment)

84. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) The enhanced electronic document of claim 81, wherein said electronic document comprises a document in a format compliant with a standard MIME format.

85. (Amend by Examiner's Amendment) An enhanced electronic document produced according to a method for processing an electronic document adapted for delivery to one or more recipients, the electronic document including a header and a body, the method comprising:

processing the electronic document using a program to identify semantic foci within the electronic document;

creating a meta-content index corresponding to said semantic foci; and

combining said meta-content index with the header and the body to provide said enhanced document;

wherein said semantic foci includes at least one date within the body, and the

method further includes identifying a document date within the header; and

associating a presentation attribute to said at least one date in said meta-content index, the presentation attribute based upon a temporal relationship between the document date and the at least one date.

86. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 85, wherein the method includes converting the at least one date to canonical form.

87. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 85, wherein the presentation attribute comprises color.

88. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 81, wherein said semantic foci includes a plurality of types of information, the plurality of types including one or more of email addresses, URLs, dates, currency values, organization names, names of people, names of places, names of products, names of drugs, names of sports teams, names of diseases, and phone numbers.

89. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 88, wherein said metacontent index comprises entries sorted by the plurality of types.

90. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 88, wherein in one of the plurality of types comprises currency values, and the method includes converting the currency values to a canonical form.

91. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 88, wherein the method includes annotating said semantic foci within said body.

92. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 88, wherein the method includes color coding said electronic version of said index and said semantic foci in said body according to said plurality of types.

93. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 81, wherein the method includes associating hyperlinks with said semantic foci, and incorporating said hyperlinks into one of said meta-content index and said body.

94. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 81, wherein said metacontent index comprises labels facilitating parsing of the enhanced document.

95. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 81, wherein said electronic document includes an attachment, and said processing includes analysis of the attachment.

96. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 81, wherein said method includes generating a summary of said electronic document, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

97. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 81, wherein said electronic document includes an attachment, and wherein said method includes generating a summary of the attachment, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

98. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 81, wherein said header includes text suggesting a key subject, and wherein said method includes generating a summary of said electronic document based upon the key subject, and including the summary in the enhanced document.

99. (Original) The enhanced electronic document of claim 81, wherein said metacontent index includes a summary of all or part of the electronic document.

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- Byrd et al. (US 5832480)
- Zamora (US 4965763)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kyle R. Stork whose telephone number is (571) 272-4130. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2178

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Kyle R Stork
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2178

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STEPHEN HONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER